



Placer County

Wastewater Advisory Committee

County Environmental Health ♦ 3091 County Center Dr. Suite

180 ♦ Auburn, CA 95603

MINUTES

November 4, 2008

CDRA Cypress Room

I. Call to Order

- A Guy Ostenson called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

II. Preliminary Items

- A Role Call and Determination of Quorum
Dave Spannagel, Tibor Banathy, Marc Lindbloom, Kevin Bell, Guy Ostenson, Rick Bluhm, Mike Broyer, Dave Buck and Mark Navo were present. Larry Farinha, David Honeycutt and Bill Carpenter were absent. A quorum was established.
- B Introduction of Guests
Rick McCauley and Ben McCauley attended as guests. Jill Pahl, Mohan Ganapathy, Vicki Ramsey, Leslie Lindbo and Marci Branaugh attended the meeting representing Environmental Health.
- C Minutes Review
Mike Broyer made a motion to accept the minutes from October 7, 2008 as written, the motion was seconded with the one correction of changing Forum to Quorum in A. *Role Call and Determination of Quorum*.
- D Agenda Review

III. Action Items

- A Review of On-site Sewage Ordinance Draft Revisions
The Wastewater Advisory Committee discussed the draft Onsite Sewage Program Ordinance and Manual and agreed to the following recommendations for additional changes and action. What will be recorded in the minutes are the changes or additions to the ordinance/manual, not suggested changes that were not accepted.

Onsite Sewage Program Ordinance

8.24.080. Sewage System Requirements

A. General Requirements

7. No person shall discharge anything other than what is specifically ~~described~~ **defined** as sewage, in this Article, into any On-Site Sewage System.
10. An area approved by Environmental Health Services for which the soil and site conditions are acceptable for installation of an on-site sewage system shall be maintained for the purpose of system replacement. Except when otherwise authorized by the Division, it shall consist of one hundred percent of the ~~normally~~ needed area.

8.24.085 Permit Requirements

- D. Expired Permit: The permit is valid for two (2) years from the date it is issued. ~~An expired permit is no longer valid.~~ It may be renewed under procedures described in the On-site Sewage Manual.
- E. An applicant may appeal a decision on a permit application using the provisions set forth in 8.24.120.

There was some discussion regarding the above section and whether or not a permit was required to replace a septic tank lid. Environmental Health Services staff confirmed that a permit is needed to replace lid.

8.24.120. Appeals

There was discussion regarding whether deadlines for appeal submittals and responses should be stated in calendar days, business day, or working days. Staff stated it was best to be consistent with other ordinances, such as the zoning ordinance, so they agreed to research what is used in those other Codes and use the same wording.

A. Review Procedure

7. When there is a ~~procedure~~ **procedural** conflict between this appeal procedure and a procedure outlined in county or state code, the codified procedure takes precedence.

ONSITE SEWAGE MANUAL

Chapter 1. Introduction and Organization of Manual

This Manual, adopted by Placer County Board of Supervisors Resolution in November 2004, will be updated regularly by this Division, with input from the Placer County Wastewater Advisory Com-

mittee, and with updating Resolutions presented to the Board of Supervisors at least annually when changes have been made.

Chapter 2. Connection to Public Sewer

There was committee discussion concerning the high cost of connection and related improvements which might drive individuals to perform repairs without a permit to avoid sewer connection requirements. Staff agreed to work with Jill Pahl to propose language that would allow some structural repairs to onsite systems and not require connection in certain circumstances when there is no intensification of use.

The word “septic” was used in the text in this section, which the committee agreed needed changes to “onsite sewage disposal system.” Staff agreed to do a keyword search of the entire draft Ordinance and Manual to make sure the word “septic” would be changes appropriately.

It was recommended to avoid and remove asterisked references, such as that in the proposed chapter 2. Staff agreed to reword the sections to incorporate the asterisked wording within the body of the text.

a) Physical Availability. A public sewer system shall be deemed physically available if its nearest connection point*(will incorporate asterisked sentence within text) from any boundary of the property to be served is:

(1) for existing parcels, within three hundred (300) feet; or

(2) for minor subdivisions, within six hundred (600) feet; or

(3) for major subdivisions and commercial projects, **a greater distance may be required** and the distance requirement shall be determined by the Division on a case-by-case basis.

Chapter 3. Site Evaluation Requirements

B. **When Requests-requests** are sometimes received to conduct a site evaluation on a parcel....

D. 2. c. A scaled site plan of the subject property. The site plan must show the parcel configuration. The scale of the site plan must be in whole multiples of 1”=10’, 1”=20’, 1”=30’, 1”=40’, 1”=50’ or 1”=60’ and be of practical use for the size of the property shown.

(This site plan must be submitted to the Division ~~by the consultant~~
at the beginning of soil test pit appointment.)

There was group discussion as to why a scaled site plan as described above is required at the time of application and again with the Consultant's Site Evaluation Report Submittal (see paragraph G.1.a. of the proposed Chapter 3). Staff explained that a scaled site plan is needed prior to the Environmental Health Site Evaluation so the Environmental Health Specialist can use the plan during the Health Site Evaluation. The second submittal by the consultant is more detailed showing site constraints found during the Health Site Evaluation and it is also wet stamped and signed by the consultant. However, staff agreed to review the requirements as a team to identify if the requirements were necessary and if they could be streamlined.

E. Site Evaluation Requirements

1. The site evaluation shall be completed by a consultant. ~~and the~~ The consultant shall schedule an appointment...
 - e. Maximum daily flow of project as determined in the On Site Sewage Manual, calculation of lineal feet of disposal trench, and proposed disposal trench dimensions. *The Committee identified that this paragraph does not include requirements for drip systems and seepage pit systems. Staff agreed to draft language to address these other systems.*

- H. 4. An area approved for a system in an Environmental Health Services site evaluation report will be considered the same as an already installed system, for purposes of determining on-site or off-site setbacks... *There was discussion regarding the incident of a neighbor putting in a pond or drilling a well within the setback. Staff agreed to discuss the paragraph with Counsel to gain clarity on any needed changes.*

Chapter 4 Criteria for System Sizing and Percolation Test Requirements and Procedures

- A. 3.a.2. *The Committee questioned where the requirement for $5/\sqrt{t}$ originated for pressure-distribution. There was a general consensus that most systems are designed to be oversized. Staff agreed to research the origin of this formula and whether a more appropriate formula should be proposed. Staff also agreed to incorporate the asterisked sentence into the body of the text of this paragraph.*

3.a.3. *Staff to add Geoflow sizing criteria for drip systems.*

3.b. *Regarding Soil Group Table, Asterisk at bottom of table:*

* Soil Groups A and E are not suitable for a standard system **when the application rate is based on soil texture.**

IV. Non-Action Items

A Status of Ethics Training

Guy provided a copy of the Ethics Training certificate. The members still needing to complete Mandatory Ethics Training AB1234 are David Spannagel, and David Honeycutt. Please visit www.fppc.ca.gov to complete training as soon as possible; failure to complete training may result in revocation of appointment.

B Correspondence and Public Comment

Nothing recorded

V. Agenda Preparation for Next Meeting

Date: December 2, 2008

Location: Cypress room at the CDRC

Time: 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM.

Action Items: Going over the committees proposed revisions of the Environmental Health Services On-Site Sewage Manual chapters 5-8.

Non-Action Items: Status of Ethics Training, Correspondence and Public Comment.

NOTE: All comments and proposed revisions for chapters 5-8 of the manual are due to Leslie Lindbo (llindbo@placer.ca.gov) no later than November 20, 2008.

VI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM